MADRAS GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1807.

Yefterday evening arrived the American Ship Gleaner, Capt. Taylor from Philadelphia—left the 2d of May.

The papers received by this opportunity extend our intelligence from England to the 22d of March, and the French Bulletins to Number 64, which we have the pleafure to lay before our Readers.

An American Paper of the 27th of April mentions that a Ship had that day arrived, which fell in with a Veffel at the entrance of Delawar, fixteen days from England, which reports than an Action had taken place between the Ruffians and the French in which the latter was compleretely defeated.

His Majefty's Ship Dedaigneufe, arrived in the Roads yefterday from a cruize in the Red Sea—from whence a confirmation has been received of the Englifh being in poffeffion of Alexandria.

LONDON,—March 18.

We are ftill unable to ftate, that the differences which have exifted, refpecting the bill for the introduction of Catholicks into the Army of Great Britain, have been fettled. Earl Spencer arrived in town yefterday from Northamptonfhire, as it is fuppofed, on this interefting bufinefs; and we have no doubt that, in the courfe of this day, the prevailing difagreement will in fome way or other find a termination.

Times.

The contradiction, in this paper of Saturday laft, of the reported refignation of the Adminiftration, is fully confirmed, and the alleged grounds of differences in the Cabinent have been wholly removed. The fentiments of a great perfonage, on the propofed meafure refpecting the admiffion of Catholicks into the higher ranks of the army and navy have produced the effect that ought to be expected, in a dutiful conformity to thofe fentiments on the part of Adminiftration. A Cabinet Council was held yefterday, which did not clofe till a late hour laft night, and Lord Grenville left town this morning to wait upon his Majefty at Windfor. The Bill at prefent before the Houfe of Commons will not, we believe, be preffed in its prefent fhape, but will be altered in conformity to the Bill which paffed in the Irifh Parliament.

Sun.

We lament that we cannot confirm the report of yefterday that all the objections to the Bill now pending in Parliament, in favor of the Roman Catholic Officers, was removed. We believe, that a late hour laft night the mifunderftanding was not fettled, and it therefore is become the fubject of moft grave and ferious confideration. Though there can be no doubts as to the courfe which on an occafion like the prefent, honourable men, intrufted with the Adminiftration, and animated by the principles of the conftitution have to purfue. No inconvenience from a change of Minifters, even at the crifis fo important as the prefent, can at all be put into comparifon with the national danger and calamity of men fubmitting to continue in place when deprived of power.

M. Chronicle.

ROMAN CATHOLICK OFFICER'S BILL.

Lord Howick.—"Mr. fpeaker, fince I had the honour of introducing to this houfe a bill for enabling his majefty to avail himfelf of the fervices of all his liege fubjects in his naval and military forces, circumftances have occurred which induced me twice to poftpone the fecond reading of the bill. The fecond reading was fixed for to morrow; it is my duty now to ftate to the houfe that thofe circumftances ftill continue, and that I fhall not tomorrow move for the fecond reading of that bill. It is alfo my duty to ftate, that I cannot precifely fay when I can make that motion. I am perfectly aware, fir, that the ftatement I have made may excite much general obfervation, and cannot fatisfy it. It is not for me, however to explain that ftatement. I rely confidently upon the indulgence of the houfe, and am fure that that indulgence will not prejudge it. I could not enter into that explanation without being authorized, the houfe will think me juftified in now withholding it. I can only fay fir, that when the opportunity fhall arrive, I fhall willingly embrace it, in the hope of giving to the houfe that fatisfactory and decifive communication, which urgent neceffity, in the prefent inftance, compels me to withhold."

"3 o'clock P. M.—We ftop the prefs to ftate, we have juft received information that Lord Eldon and Lord Hawkfbury were fent for to attend his majefty at Windfor, and that they left town this morning for that purpofe. It is underftood that they were fent for to receive his Majefty's Orders refpecting the formation of a new Adminiftration."

Sun.

The Auftrian Meffenger, who we mentioned in our paper of yefterday to be waiting at Heligoland for a paffage to England, amongft other things, declared, that before he left Vienna, accounts had been received there of peace having been made between the Ruffians and Turks.

FROM ENGLAND.

New-York, April 24.—By the arrival of the fhip Palinuros, in twenty fix days from Plymouth, we have been put in poffeffion of London Papers to the 22d March, being two days later than before received by the Gold Hunter, from which the following articles are extracted.

London, March 22. the Duke of Portland, who at his Majefty's command has undertaken to form a new adminiftration, continues occupied in that important, and we are inclined to think, arduous arrangement. Lord Hardwicke yefterday attended his Majefty at Windfor, and in the evening a meeting of the new cabinet took place at Burlington houfe, to receive the further communication of the royal pleafure.

It has been attempted to reconcile the difcordant feelings of Lords Sidmouth and Melville; and we underftand Lord Eldon, in communicating to the King the difficulty which occurred on this head, enquired if his Majefty was defirous that Lord Sidmouth fhould continue in the Cabinet. The reply is ftated to have been, "It is matter of perfect indifference to me." We have reafon to believe that the Duke of Portland has in confequence made his election of Lord Melville, and that the Admiralty is again to have the benefit of his Lordfhip's active and liberal Adminiftration.

A French fquadron, confifting of 5 fail of the line and a frigate, which for fome time, had been lying in the outward harbour of Breft ready for fea, appears, by letters which reached town from Plymouth, to have efcaped through the paffage Du Raz. It is conjectured that they are bound to America, to relieve the two fhips blockaded there by the British cruizers. The facility with which the French fhips have of late arrived at Breft, or failed from thence, proves one of two things—either that the project of blockading that harbour is abfurd, or that there is criminal neglect in the execution of it.

The blockade of Trieft has been raifed for the prefent, in confequence of a conference between the Governor and the Britifh Commodore; the port, however, continues fhut againft the Englifh and Ruffian veffels, and if that unwarrantable fyftem of exclufion is ftill perfifted in, the blockade will be of courfe refumed.

Difpatches are daily looked for at the admiralty from the Rio Plata. A report was afloat yefterday that the accounts had been received of the taking of Monte Video—the ftatement was at leaft premature.

PHILADELPHIA.—25th April.

New-York, April 24.—The fhip Eliza, Capt. Smith, left Bourdeaux on the 25th of March. We have received by her our regular file of French papers to the 20th, inclufive. They add to our former ftock of intelligence two more bulletins (the 63d and 64th.) from the grand army. The moft interefting circumftance being detailed in that of the 64th, we have confined our tranflations for the prefent to that article only.

FRENCH GRAND ARMY.

SIXTY-FOURTH BULLETIN.

Osterode, March 2.—The city of Elbing furnifhed great refources to the army. There was found in it a great quantity of wine and brandy. The country of the lower Viftula is very fertile.

The Ambaffadors of Conftantinople and of Perfia, have entered Poland, and approach Warfaw.

After the battle of Eylau the Emperor paffed every day feveral hours on the field of battle. A horrid fpectacle, but duty rendered it neceffary. It required much labour to bury all the dead. A great number of bodies of Ruffian officers were found with their decorations. It appears there was among them a Prince Repnin. Forty eight hours after the battle, more than 500 wounded Ruffians remained on the ground they had not been able to carry off. Brandy and bread was brought them, and they were fucceffively tranfported to the hofpitals.

Let one figure to himfelf upon the furface of a fquare league 9 or 10,000 dead bodies, 4 or 5000 horfes flain, lines of Ruffian knapfacks, pieces of mufkets and fwords, the earth covered with Bullets—Obus's munitions, 24 pieces of cannon near which were the bodies of the conductors killed at the moment they were making efforts to drag them off, all which appeared more forcibly upon a ground of fnow. A fpectacle calculated to infpire Princes with the love of peace and the horrors of war.

The 5000 that we had wounded have been all filed off or fent to Thorn and our hofpitals on the left bank of the Viftula upon fleighs. The furgeons have remarked with furprize that the fatigue of this conveyance has not injured the wounded.

Here are fome details of the battle of Braunfberg. Gen. Dupont marched againft the enemy in two columns. Gen. Brayare, who commanded the right column, met the enemy at Ragern, and forced him in this river, which runs in front of this village. The left column pufhed the enemy upon Villenberg, and the whole of the divifion did not delay fallying out of the wood. The enemy driven from his firft pofition, was obliged to fall back upon the river which covers the city of Braunfberg; at firft he ftood firm, but Gen. Dupont marched up to him—overfet him by a brifk charge, and entered with him into the city, which was ftrewed with the Ruffian dead.

The 9th of light infantry, the 32d, and the 9th of the line which compofed this divifion, have fignalifed themfelves. Generals Barrois, Lahoteffaye, Colonel Semele of the 24th of the line—Colonel Meunier of the 9th of light infantry, the chief of Battalion Dauge of the 32d, of the line, and the chief of a fquadron Hubiner of the 9th of Huffars, have merited particular eulogiums.

Since the arrival of the French army on the Viftula, we have taken from the Ruffians in the affairs of Pultufk and of Golyneen 89 pieces of cannon, at the Bergfreid 4 pieces; at the retreat of D'Allenfteen 5 pieces; at the battle of Depen 16; at the battle of Holf 12 pieces; at the battle of Eylau 24 pieces; at the battle of Braunfberg 16 pieces; at the battle of Oftrolenka 9 pieces—total 157 pieces.

The remark has been made on this fubject that the Emperor has never loft any cannon in the armies which he has commanded when in the firft campaigns of Italy and Egypt, or in thofe of the army of referve, neither in thofe of Auftria and Moravia or in thofe of Pruffia and Poland.

Paris, March 14.—The memorable battle of Eylau has confounded the attempts made by the Ruffians to difturb our winter quarters; and the battles of the 16th and 22d February, have finifhed to entirely difconcert their projects. H.S.H. Arch Chancellor Prince of the Empire, has embraced the occafion of thefe fortunate fucceffes to fupplicate H. M. Emprefs and Queen to approve of a Feftival which fhe has condefcended to accept of. This feftival is to take place tomorrow, (15th) at the palace of the Great Elector, that her Majefty the Queen of Naples has kindly ceded for that purpofe.

Several French who were in Ruffia have quitted that Empire to avoid the vexatious obligations prefcribed by Ukafe relating to them—Already, many have paffed by Nantz, in their way to Paris. M. Marten, French Conful in Moldavia, has alfo paffed through the fame city returning to Paris.

THE U. S. GAZETTE—April 23.

PARIS, Feb. 7.

GRAND SANHEDRIM.

The grand Sanhedrim has opened its feffion. His Excellency the Minifter of the interior has appointed to prefide in this religious affembly, the Rabbi David Sintzheim, of Strafburg—refpectable for his age, his character, his learning, and his piety. The Rabbins Segre and Cologna, both known by their valuable theological and literary productions, have been named, the one as firft affeffor, *(ab bet din)* the other as fecond affeffor *(charcam)*. M. Segre is municipal counfellor at Verceil, Piedmont. Cologna, ex-legiflator in Italy, is now member of the electoral college of that country.

On the 9th of February, at 11 o'clock, the Members of the Sanhedrim met with their chief, and went in proceffion to the grand Synagogue. They were attended by the Members of the firft affembly. Here a prayer fuitable to the occafion was diftributed, written in Hebrew and French—a Hebrew hymn, compofed by the Rabbin Segre, firft affeffor. Then an ode in Hebrew tranflated into Italian and Latin by the Rabbi Zimerauni, member of the Sanhedrim, and was named the 2d inft. foreign correfpondent of the medical fociety of emulation at Paris. The prefident, Sintzheim, pronounced a difcourfe in Hebrew, which was heard by the affembly with warm emotions.—Then, after having recited many facred texts he drew from the tabernacle the book of the law, and bleffed the affembly, making at the fame time an affecting prayer for our immortal Emperor—for the glory of his arms and the return of peace. The temple often refounded with cries of "Long live the Emperor—the Emprefs—the Imperial Family, and the brave French Army." Cologna, fecond affeffor, pronounced in Italian, a fermon which produced the moft lively fenfations. It turned in a great meafure upon the union of religion with the civil, moral and political duties of man—of the citizen and the fubject. The elegance and warmth of language, the firm and perfuative tone of the orator, caufed a general enthufiafm among the hearers, among whom were fome diftinguifhed citizens. The Rabbi Cracovia of Venice, alfo delivered a well written difcourfe, in which he gives an account of the origin of the Sanhedrim and pays a tribute of homage to the immortal monarch who has renewed its exiftence for a moment among us.

The temple was adorned with propriety and elegance by the care and zeal of Aaron Schmol, deputy to the firft affembly for the department of the Seine, and a lay member of the Sanhedrim.

The firft religious ceremony being over, they adjourned to the Hotel de Ville, where the hall deftined to the feffion of the firft Ifraelitifh deputation, was prepared for holding the Seffion of the Sanhedrim, in a manner conformable to ancient religious ufage. Mr. Avigdor read the procefs verbal recognizing their powers, and drawn up by the permiffion of him in prefence of the commiffaries of his Imperial and Royal Majefty.—Michael Beer, an advocate, member of the firft affembly, and of many learned focieties, one of the fcribes appointed by his Excellency the Minifter of the interior, was charged by the Chief of the Sanhedrim to read and explain the procefs verbal. Jacob Lazarus and Mofes Levi, member of the commiffion of nine not elected into the Sanhedrim, were named infpectors of the hall.—The chief of the Sanhedrim ordered a French difcourfe of his own compofition, to be read by Mr. Avigdor. This oration, filled with liberal and pious fentiments, made a lively impreffion. Mr. Furtado, prefident of the firft affembly, read the preamble and articles of three firft points of doctrine, proper to the Sanhedrim, upon Polygamy, Divorce and Marriage. This was preceded by a lengthy report, in which, taking a lofty range of reflections and obfervations, the orator juftified his character for talents, fo generally acknowledged.

The Rabbli Cracovia, reporting, and Mr. Ben Ifaac Ben, member of the commiffion of nine, delivered the fame lecture in Hebrew. Mr. Michael Ben read the procefs verbal of inftallation, which was adopted. The chief immediately named two deputations, to communicate with the minifter of the interior and the commiffaries. He then adjourned the Sanhedrim, and according to the general intentions of the regulations, the firft deliberation was adjourned for eight days.

All admired the order which reigned in this firft feffion of the affembly, whofe object it is to reftore to happinefs a clafs of men miferable and perfecuted for fuch a length of time.

This ceremony has excited a general intereft and curiofity, as well for its novelty, as on account of the great man who has revived an affembly, without example in the hiftory of modern exhibitions.

FORT WILLIAM,—August 13.

Yefterday the 12th inftant, being the day appointed by the Right Honorable the Governor General for the public inveftiture of Sir George Hilaro Barlow, Baronet, with the moft Honorable Order of the Bath, at the hour of feven in the morning, the honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court, Mr. Lumfden, the Provincial Commander in Chief, Major General Sir Ewen Baillie, and Major General Macdonald, the Judges of the Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut, the Members of the Boards of Trade and Revenue, and all the principal Civil and Military Officers at the Prefidency, affembled at the Government Houfe.

At the fame hour a deputation confifting of the Governor General's Private and Military Secretaries, and the Town Major of Fort William, pre-

ceeded in the Governor General's Carriages, escorted by the Body Guard under the Command of Captain Gall, to the Residence of Sir George Barlow, for the purpose of conducting him to the Government House.

On his arrival at the Northern Gate of the area of the Government House, Sir George Barlow received the salute of the troops under arms, consisting of the flank companies of his Majesty's 67th Regiment and the stationary guard of the Governor General, which formed a street extending from the Northern Gate of the area to the Southern Stair Case of the Government House, the Band of the Regiment stationed in the Portico, accompanying the salute with the music of "God Save the King."

On alighting from his Carriage, Sir George Barlow was received by a second deputation, consisting of Major General Sir Ewen Baillie, Major General Macdonald, and the Commandant of Artillery and Engineers.

At the head of the Stair leading to the upper floor of the Government House, Sir George Barlow was received by a third deputation, consisting of the Chief Secretary to Government, and the Secretaries in the Political, Judical, Military and Persian departments.

The Right Honorable the Governor General having previously taken his Seat in a Chair of State under a splendid Canopy erected at the upper end of the Grand Saloon, and the Chief Civil and Military Authorities being ranged on each side agreeably to their respective ranks, Sir George Barlow, attended by the Members of the several deputations, and preceded by the Secretary in the Political Department, bearing on a velvet cushion the Insignia of the Order of the Bath, advanced through the centre door of the Grand Saloon to the front of the Canopy.

The Governor General then arose, and communicated to Sir George Barlow the commands which his Lordship had received from his *Majesty* for investing Sir George Barlow with the most honorable Order of the Bath, in the following words:

"Sir George Hilaro Barlow,

"I am honored with his Majesty's Commands to invest you with the Insignia of the most honorable Order of the Bath; and he has been pleased to add a special instruction that the ceremony shall be performed in the most honorable and distinguished manner.

"The Order of the Bath, of which, without solicitation and of his Majesty's own princely Grace, you have been appointed a Knight Companion, has ever been ranked by his Majesty among the highest distinctions he can bestow, on such of his subjects as have rendered signal service to their country; and amongst the most exalted rewards of public virtue and exertion. These honorable badges therefore, which, in obedience to his command and in his Royal name, I am about to have the satisfaction of presenting to you, are not to be viewed merely as splendid ornaments to the person, but rather as displaying the more noble and more gratifying decoration of your Royal Master's approbation and esteem, as a constant, public, and visible manifestation of the gracious favor with which the Sovereign of the British Empire, has regarded the uniform zeal, application, wisdom, purity, firmness, energy, and success, which have characterized through a series of years, every hour of your long, faithful and distinguished services.

"Such are the sentiments, also, which have been consigned by our honorable Masters the East India Company, in every volume of their Records, and I will venture to assure you that they are re-echoed from the hearts and bosoms of your country.

"For myself, it has been my fortune more than once to represent my Gracious Master on solemn and important occasions, but never I assure you, Sir, with more entire and more cordial personal gratification than on this day. It is indeed natural that I should feel peculiar satisfaction, at finding myself the humble instrument by which this just and honorable homage is paid to eminent qualities and endowments, from which I am about to experience so much benefit and comfort, and from which I am sure to derive such essential aid in the discharge of the arduous and momentous duties, in which I have the honor and the happiness to be associated with you."

The Chief Secretary to Government having then read the documents connected with the Aappointment of Sir George Barlow to be one of the Knights Companions of the most honorable Order of the Bath, the Governor General proceeded to invest Sir George Barlow with the Insignia of that Order in the usual form, by placing the Red Ribbon over the right Shoulder, fastening it with the Collar of the Order, and fixing the Star on the left Breast.

Sir George Barlow then delivered a short speech, expressive of the high sense he entertained of the honor, which had been graciously conferred on him by his Majesty, and of his acknowledgments for the distinguished manner in which the Investiture had been conducted, and for the flattering sentiments which his Lordship had been pleased to express on that occasion.

At the conclusion of Sir George Barlow's Speech, a Salute of 17 guns was fired from the Ramparts of Fort William, in honor of the occasion.

The Governor General, attended by Sir George Barlow, and the Company assembled, then proceeded to the Breakfast, which was prepared in the Marble Hall.

After Breakfast, Sir George Barlow took his leave, and was attended to his Carriage by the General Officers and Commandants of Artillery and Engineers.

Sir George Barlow returned to his House, accompanied by the Members of the first Deputation, and the Governor General's Body Guard, and was saluted as he passed by the Troops under Arms.

The Company invited to be present at the Investiture re-assembled in the Evening at a Dinner, given by the Governor General to Sir George Barlow, in honor of this distinguished Ceremonial.

By Order of the Right Honorable
The Governor General in Council,
THOMAS BROWN, *Chief Sec. to Govt.*

CALCUTTA,—August 12, 1807.

The tempestuous weather of the 1st and 2d curt. which we particularly noticed in our last number, as having occasioned some losses in the neighbourhood of the Presidency, proves to have had a wider scope, and to have raged with more destructive effect, at the entrance of the river, and northern parts of the Bay, than had been apprehended. A melancholy list of disasters, of ships lost and stranded, has already come to hand, and apprehensions are naturally excited for the safety of many other vessels, supposed to have been exposed to the violence of the gale.

Two ships, name not exactly ascertained, supposed to be the *Resource* and the *Perseverance*, were driven out to Sea from below Saugor Sand, on the 1st curt. and from their distressed situation when last seen, and no subsequent account of them received, it is dreaded that they have both foundered; and that the whole of the people who were on board have perished.

The *Marchioness of Wellesley*, with a rich cargo for China, was overtaken with the gale, in the attempt to pass from Kedgeree to Saugor, and in consequence of having displaced or injured her rudder, endeavoured to return to Diamond Harbour, but in the passage up, she was driven on shore near Culpee, where she was abandoned by her officers and crew. Expectations, however, are indulged that both ship and cargo may be saved; assistance for that purpose has been dispatched from Calcutta, and under the continuance of the present mild weather, the hopes of floating off the ship, and saving her cargo are likely to be realized.

The *Matilda*, Captain Ross, experienced all the fury of the gale in Saugor Roads. From the loss of Anchors and Cables, and some injury to her rudder, Captain Ross was compelled to return to Diamond Harbour, where the *Matilda*, is safely moored.

The *Caroline*, Captain Egglestone, with a grain cargo for Madras, quitted the Pilot on the 1st curr. at noon, under a gentle breeze from the Northward. Early in the following night, the wind veered round, and set in from the Southward, blowing hard with a hollow dangerous swell, in which the ship was struck by a heavy sea, that stove in many of the bulk heads and threw two or three feet of water between decks. A quantity of rice was thrown overboard with all expedition, in order to lighten the ship, but the gale increasing and frequent seas being shipped, she was found, notwithstanding the utmost exertions at the pumps, to be settling in the water; and their situation became so evidently critical, that many of the lascars, considering the ship as lost, were equipping themselves in their best clothes, and preparing to seek their safety in the boats.

Captain Egglestone, who had been anxiously intent on securing the masts, getting the sails handed, and repairing such losses as had been sustained in the early part of the night, was suddenly alarmed with this appearance of despondency in a part of his crew—the contagion of despair was quickly spreading, and so lost to all hope were many of his people, that they had laid themselves down, passively to await the approach of death; while others were preparing to cut away the boats, to leave the ship to her fate, and to commit themselves to certain and immediate death, by crowding into two open boats, in a gale of wind, and in a sea in which no undecked vessel could have survived even for a few minutes.

In this trying situation, Capt Egglestone called upon his men, and endeavoured to rouse them to a sense of their duty. He exhorted them to dismiss from their minds every unmanly fear, which alone could endanger their safety—he urged them to exert themselves as seamen; that their alarm was groundless and that the safety of their lives depended on themselves.—By the co-operation of persuasion and threats, and from the example of Capt. Egglestone and his Officers, the lascars recovered themselves, proceeded to work with such animation, that in the course of half an hour, they had got up from the hold and thrown overboard, about 800 bags of rice, which had the effect of relieving the ship so considerably, that it was unnecessary to throw overboard any further quantity; and in consequence of being thus lightened, and kept before the wind, the water she made was so much reduced, that one pump was sufficient to keep it under. They continued to bear up, and the ship was brought to Diamond Harbour, without further loss, than that of her sails, a part of her cargo, and having damaged the remainder, from the quantity of salt water that found its way into the hold.

The danger of the *Caroline* was particularly imminent; and her safety doubtful. Had she shipped one more Sea, She would probably have gone down upon the instant; or, had the work of throwing overboard cargo been delayed ten minutes longer, not a man on board would have escaped to tell her fate.

The American ship *Silenus*, Captain Cartwright, on his return from Madras, received on board his Pilot in the Roads and met with the gale a little below Saugor. The ship parted, and was driving towards a Sand, upon which there were 3 or 4 feet less water than the draught of the *Silenus*, on an even keel. In this dangerous predicament the topsails were immediately proposed to be set, in the hope of leading the Ship from the danger. The topsails were no sooner loosened, than they were blown from the yards, by the violence of the gale. Thus hopelessly circumstanced, Capt. Cartwright hurried forward with a few of his best hands, and succeeded in setting the fore-sail; when he immediately laid his ship's side to the wind, and bringing 3 or 4 streaks of her deck to leeward, underwater, carried her safely over the Sand; as in consequence of being thus laid nearly on her beam ends, she drew several feet less water, than had she been on an even keel. By this happy expedient, the *Silenus* and the people on board were rescued from destruction.

A brig, name unknown, and the *Kitty*, Captain Raper, were seen in the Roads on Sunday, the 2d instant, and as neither have been since heard of, apprehensions are entertained for their safety.

The *Hunter*, Capt. Williams, had got pretty well down the Bay, on his passage to Madras, when he was forced to bear up for Bengal—the particulars are communicated in the following letter from Captain Williams.

"*TO THE EDITOR OF THE MIRROR,*

"SIR,

"I beg to transmit to you, for insertion in the next number of your paper, a detail of the leading circumstances, under which the Ship *Hunter*, was compelled to abandon her intended voyage to Madras, and to return to this Port.

"On the 26th ultimo, at 6 P. M. Ganjam Flag-staff bearing N. N. W. distant 2 leagues, we tacked to the Southward, with the wind at S. W. the weather gloomy and unsettled, with a heavy swell from the Southward. Towards midnight, the wind veered to the West, with much lightning and thunder. We continued standing to the Southward, 'till 2 next morning, when the ship was taken aback, and a heavy gale at W. S. W. set in, with a tremendous Sea. From the alarming appearance of the weather on the preceding night, we had clewed up all our sails; and, by six o'clock, the Ship was lying too under a mizen course, in an increasing gale, with a cross, harrassing, Sea. Soon afterwards a heavy surge struck the Ship on the Star-board quarter, with such extraordinary violence, that it shifted part of the cargo in the Gun-room, and the Ship sallying suddenly forward, under the weight and impetuosity of the Sea, sprung the mizen Mast, close by the Deck and the Jib-boom;—the larboard bower Anchor, which had been stowed for Sea, was in an instant torn from the bows.

"The mizen Mast was prevented falling overboard by applying guys, with which we succeeded in securing it. The larboard Anchor having dropped under the bows, and being still attached to the Cable, struck occasionally with such force against the Ship, that it was judged proper to cut the Cable at the bitts, to prevent the injury threatened by the throes of the Anchor against the bows. The Sea had now greatly increased, and the wind blew with such violence, that it was with difficulty we could keep the Deck. The Ship, from the severe straining, was making so much water that both pumps were kept at work, and the water gaining upon us; we found it necessary to throw overboard a part of the cargo, in order to lighten the Ship; and we had the satisfaction to find, that as the night set in, we could keep her free with one pump. The sails had been clewed up; but it was so essential to the safety of the Ship, during the whole of the morning, that the working of the pumps should suffer no intermission, that the hands could not be spared to furl them; and we had the mortification to see the greater part of the sails, particularly the fore sail, the main, and main top sail, blown to pieces. The jib-boom, which had been taken away by the cap, lay so heavy upon the bow-sprit that it was found necessary to cut away the wreck.

"Next morning the gale had somewhat abated.—Wore ship; and set the fore and main topsails, close reefed, with the storm stay sail, which was rendered necessary as the sea was breaking in every direction. On this tack we continued 'till the morning of the 29th, when the gale re-commenced with more than its former violence. In a few hours we found three feet water in the hold, beside a large quantity between decks. We still endeavoured to keep the sea, but found it impossible with any hope of safety. The crew, from incessant and long continued fatigue, were exhausted, and the water rapidly gaining on both pumps, our situation became alarming, insomuch that we had again recourse to the expedient of throwing overboard a further part of the cargo. The water still continuing to gain upon the pumps, and the people more and more exhausted, it became ultimately necessary to bear up for the River Hooghly.

"On the evening of the 30th we anchored in Balasore Roads, but not meeting with a Pilot schooner, and our situation admitting of no delay, I next morning got under weigh and ran towards Saugor Roads. Being in the Channel, we got a Pilot on board about 2 o'clock, and the same evening anchored above the Reef Buoy.

"The next day, Saturday, the 1st of August, the wind veered a little to the W. S. W. which fortunately brought us to the South part of Saugor Roads, where, soon after anchoring, another gale commenced at W. N. W. and West, with heavy rain and violent gusts of wind. Next morning it blew still more furiously, the sea breaking over the *Hunter* with a heavy surf, as if she had been immoveable fixed. The stays of our masts, though made of new rope, were blown away by the intensity of the wind. Our larboard bower cable was stranded, at a short distance from the bows, and our safety now depended on the starboard cable, which was veered out to an end; the masts were cut away to prevent, as much as possible, our driving on shore.—As we were in act of cutting away the masts, the larboard cable parted. Fortunately we soon cleared away the wreck of the masts, though of the Lascars, who were completely worn down with fatigue, not a man could be prevailed on to work; and the only assistance I had, was afforded by my Officers and the Pilot, whose zeal and exertions increased with every difficulty.

"The ship had now 5 feet water in the hold, but the gale moderating we got her free in a few hours.—Availing ourselves in the evening of the ebb tide, we were enabled with the further assistance of such sails, as we could set on the stumps of our masts, to get off a lee-shore, and had the good fortune to anchor off Mud Point in the night; and on the following day arrived at Diamond Harbour.

"I may add, for the satisfaction of parties concerned, that on the evening of the 29th ult. 10 or 15 miles to the Southward of *Jagernaut* Pagoda, I passed a ship standing to the Westward, which from her appearance I believe was the *Fay*. On the 30th, I was overtaken by the *Perseverance*, of this Port, on her return from Madras. In the evening we anchored in company in Ballasore Roads, and I there left her at anchor, on the morning of the 31st.

"I am, &c.

"J. WILLIAMS, *Com. of the Ship Hunter.*

Calcutta, August 11, 1807.